

Useful Sculptures

Description:

Children will create a functional sculpture for use around the house.

Materials:

wood scraps, clay, paint, brushes, hammer, nails, saw (materials as desired)

Standards: 1 and 3

Concepts: Medium, form, and shape

Level: K-3



Procedure:

Take a walk around the house, and ask your child to think of something that everyone in the family could use, such as a toothbrush holder, flower centerpiece, picture frame, birdhouse, or paperweight. After choosing an object, your child must think about how to make it. For instance, a toothbrush holder can be made by painting or gluing paper on an empty soup can, and a flower centerpiece can be made by sticking plastic flowers into styrofoam. Another wonderful idea is to make a birdhouse from a discarded milk carton. Encourage your child to use her imagination to realize her ideas.

Just for Kids:

Today you are going to make a sculpture that everyone in the family can use. Walk through your house and go outdoors. Can you find a place for your sculpture? Can you make a birdhouse from a milk carton or a toothbrush holder from a soup can? Would your kitchen table look nice with a flower sculpture? How will you make your sculpture useful? What kind of tools will you need? Ask a grown-up for help if you need it.

Resources:

Books:

Gifts Children Can Make by Beth Murray
Gifts Kids Can Make by Sheila McGraw
Earth-Friendly Holidays by George Pfiffner

Web:

KinderArt: www.kinderart.com
Crafts for Kids: craftsforkids.about.com
Making Friends: www.makingfriends.com